

# Enterprise MediaWiki: State of the Ecosystem

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SMWCon 2021  
December 8, 2021

# About me

- Live in New Jersey, USA
- MediaWiki and "Enterprise MediaWiki" entrepreneur and consultant (WikiWorks), author (*Working with MediaWiki*), podcaster (*Between the Brackets*) and evangelist

# Enterprise MediaWiki

- Any use of MediaWiki outside of Wikimedia sites, especially among companies and organizations
- A set of extensions and skins, mostly not used on Wikimedia sites, that are widely used elsewhere
- More philosophically, MediaWiki as a database

Let's talk about some extensions...

# Page Forms

- Started in 2007, originally known as "Semantic Forms"
- Lets you define forms for creating and editing pages with infobox-style template calls

# What's new in Page Forms

- Big change in the last year: `#template_params` and `#template_display` parser functions
- Also, a move to MediaWiki's OOUI JS library
- (Also, lots of bug fixes and smaller additions)

# New template syntax, with Page Forms and Cargo

```
<noinclude>
{ { #template_params: Country |
Population (label=Pop.) } }
{ { #cargo_declare: _table=Cities |
Country=Page | Population=Integer } }
</noinclude><includeonly>
{ { #cargo_store: _table=Cities } }
{ { #template_display: _format=table } }
</includeonly>
```

# Old and new #forminput display

Old (jQuery UI + HTML):

Create or edit opinion item

'Buy **A**merican' provisions offer recipe for retaliation

'Cowboy up,' **A**lberto Gonzales

'**D**eath panels' exist already

'No **b**rainier' Keystone decision make Obama administration looks like it has no brains

'No-fly zone' is **a** euphemism for war. We'd be mad to try it

New (OOUI):

Create or edit opinion item

'Buy **A**merican' provisions offer recipe for retaliation

'Cowboy up,' **A**lberto Gonzales

'**D**eath panels' exist already

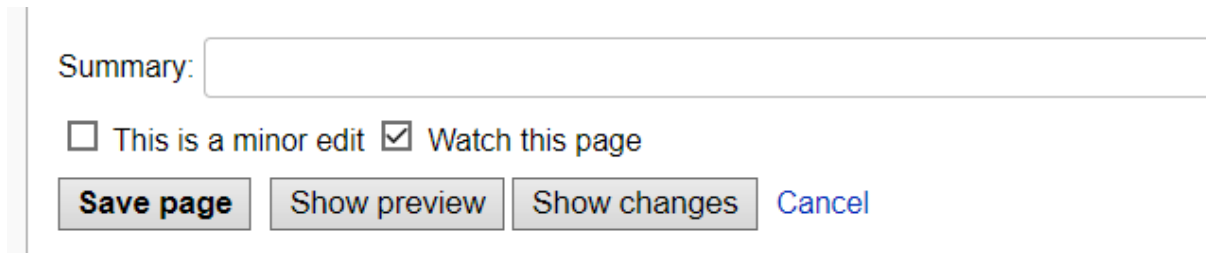
'No **b**rainier' Keystone decision make Obama administration looks like it has no brains

'No-fly zone' is **a** euphemism for war. We'd be mad to try it



# Old and new standard form bottom

Old (HTML):



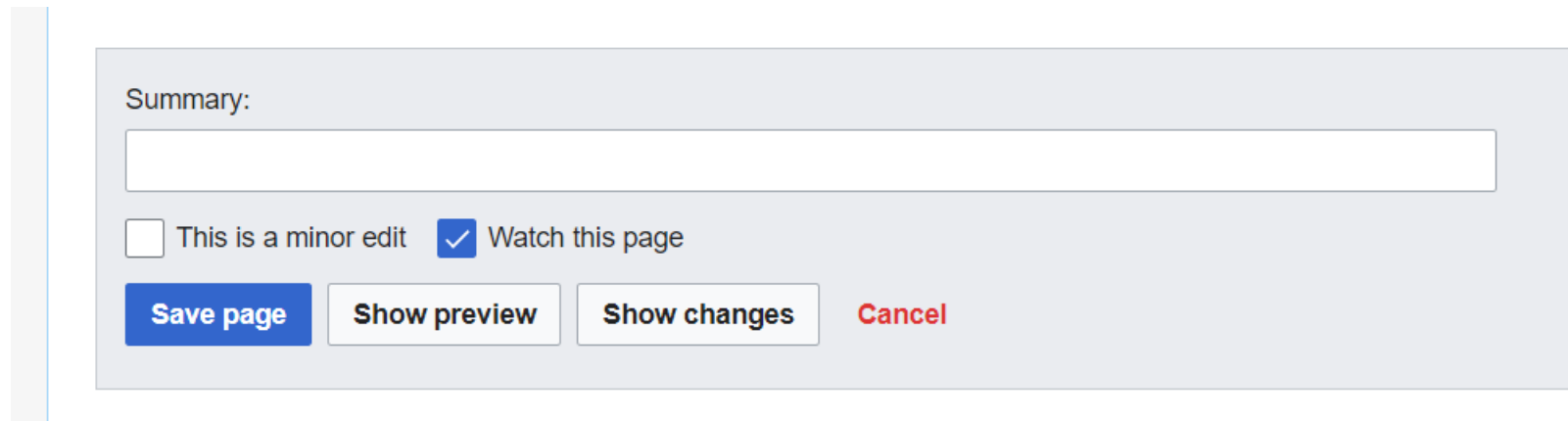
Summary:

☐ This is a minor edit ☒ Watch this page

**Save page** Show preview Show changes [Cancel](#)

This screenshot shows the bottom of an old HTML form. It features a 'Summary:' label followed by a text input field. Below the input field are two checkboxes: 'This is a minor edit' (unchecked) and 'Watch this page' (checked). At the bottom, there are four buttons: 'Save page' (highlighted with a dark background), 'Show preview', 'Show changes', and 'Cancel' (a text link).

New (OOUI, with some extra CSS):



Summary:

☐ This is a minor edit ☒ Watch this page

**Save page** Show preview Show changes **Cancel**

This screenshot shows the bottom of a new OOUI form. It has a 'Summary:' label and a text input field. Below the input field are two checkboxes: 'This is a minor edit' (unchecked) and 'Watch this page' (checked). At the bottom, there are four buttons: 'Save page' (highlighted with a dark blue background), 'Show preview', 'Show changes', and 'Cancel' (highlighted with a dark red background).

# External Data

- Started in 2009
- Lets you display data from outside sources: APIs, databases, text files, etc.

# What's new in External Data

(most of the credit goes to Alexander Mashin)

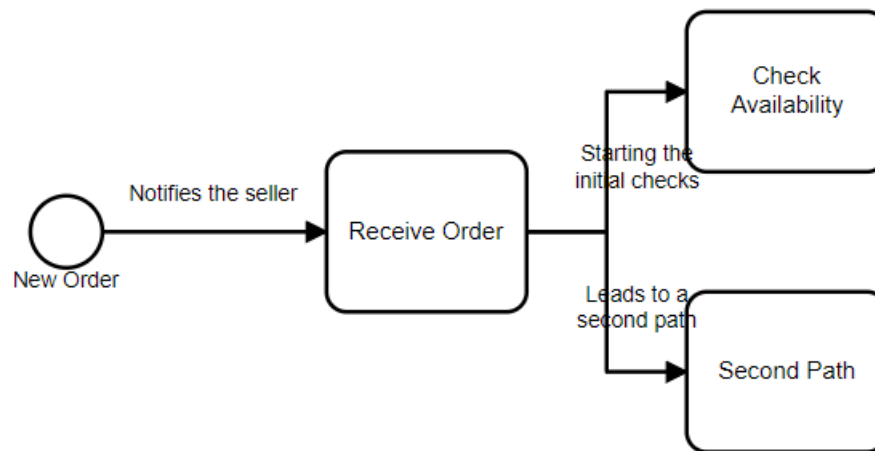
- Scribunto support added in 2020 - all functionality available within Lua modules
- Major changes in version 3.0:
  - `#get_program_data` - data can now be retrieved from the output of a program run on the server: scripts like `whois`, or even graphing tools like `graphviz`
    - potentially replaces the need for various small extensions
  - new "INI" format, to support files with key-value pairs ("key=value")
  - can retrieve just a subset of a JSON or XML file, instead of the whole thing

# Cargo

- Started in 2014
- Lets you store infobox-style template values in DB tables (one row per template call), and query the data
- A lot like Semantic MediaWiki, but:
  - faster
  - easier to use?
  - better maintained?
  - lacks Linked Data support, however

# What's new in Cargo

- New result formats, "bpmn" and "gantt"
- Lots of smaller features and bug fixes
- Sample “bpmn” format output:



# Approved Revs

- Lets you mark a certain revision of a page or file as "approved", and thus shown to users
- A more "humane", wiki-style approach than blocking users from editing
- Alternative to FlaggedRevs (easier to use, better maintained) and Moderation extensions

# What's new in Approved Revs

- New variables: APPROVALYEAR, APPROVALMONTH, APPROVALDAY, APPROVALTIMESTAMP and APPROVALUSER
- Also, new parser functions with these names, to display approval info for some *other* page (e.g., {{APPROVALDAY:List of offices}})
- Better support for files, for example \$segApprovedRevsBlank**File**Unapproved

# Page Exchange

- Released in 2020
- Lets you define “packages” of wiki pages that can be installed, updated and removed on any wiki that has Page Exchange (PX) installed
- Typical use case: templates, forms, Lua modules, etc. for a data structure



# Page Exchange install screen

## Packages: Books demo (Cargo)

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[< Packages](#)

A data structure for information on books and authors, using the Cargo and Page Forms extensions.

**Website:** <https://github.com/WikiWorks/Page-Exchange-packages>

**Publisher:** WikiWorks

**Author:** Yaron Koren, Ike Hecht

**Pages:**

- [Template:Book](#) - there is a local copy of this page that differs from the external version.
- [Form:Book](#)
- [Template:Author](#) - there is a local copy of this page that differs from the external version.
- [Form:Author](#)
- [Genres](#)

**Language:** en

**Required extensions:** Page Forms, Cargo

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[Install](#)

# Flex Diagrams

- Released in 2020
- Allows for editing and displaying diagrams in standard formats (currently, BPMN, Gantt and Mermaid)

# Flex Diagrams “edit diagram” page

[Gantt](#) [Discussion](#) [Read](#) [Edit diagram](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [More ▾](#)

## Edit diagram: Gantt:Project ATLAS

Task name	Start time	Duration	+	23 Jun	24 Jun	25 Jun	26 Jun	27 Jun	28 Jun	29 Jun	30 Jun	01 Jul
Planning meeting	2020-06-24	1	+		Planning me							
Create specificatic	2020-06-25	2	+			Create specifications						
Draw wireframe	2020-06-26											
Create first version	2020-06-29											
1st round of feedb	2020-07-06											
Sign off on moc	2020-07-07											
Create second vei	2020-07-09											

29 June 2020 - 04 July 2020

Create first version

Description

Create first version

Time period

29 ▾ June ▾ 2020 ▾ - 5 + Days 04 July 2020

✓ Save

⌕ Cancel

Delete

Summary:

☐ This is a minor edit ☒ Watch this page

Save changes

Cancel

[Editing help \(opens in new window\)](#)

# Other standard "Enterprise MediaWiki" extensions

- Semantic MediaWiki and related extensions
- Admin Links
- CirrusSearch (+ Elasticsearch)
- Data Transfer
- Header Tabs / Tabber / Tabs
- PluggableAuth and related extensions
- Replace Text
- Scribunto
- VisualEditor + VEFoAll
- Widgets

...and many more! (Sorry if I left out an extension you like.)

# Wikibase

- An extension that helps make your wiki unusable
- Also used to power Wikidata

# "Enterprise MediaWiki" skins

- Responsive (mobile-friendly) skins have become quite popular: Chameleon, Refreshed, Timeless, Tweeki, etc.
- ...although lots of people still use Vector also!
- (If using Vector, the MobileFrontend extension is recommended.)